

ANOTHER RECORD MADE IN PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENTS; PRICES EASIER

ANOTHER RECORD MADE IN TRADE.

Coke Production Is Large est for Week During Years.

GAINS NOTED EVERYWHERE

Pittsburg Western and Eastern Shipments Show Strong Gains—Price Question for 1910 Selling Principal Topic of Discussion.

A new high record was made in coke production and shipments with the week ending Saturday December 18. The production figures arose from 483,765 tons to 452,735 tons, making an increase of over 1,000 tons for the week. The gain in shipments was exceptionally large the total footing up to 15,017 cars a gain of almost 2,000 cars over the previous week and making the record shipment for the year. The heaviest gain in shipments were to points west of Pittsburg where a gain of nearly 1,000 cars is noted. The Pittsburg shipments also increased heavily as well as the shipments to eastern points.

For the week before Christmas it coke trade held its own in a remarkable manner. The prices perhaps sagged a little but on the whole the trade has held firm in spite of some very discouraging conditions. The week opened with a remarkable storm and one that will be long recalled.

The charging on Monday was not so very heavy and after this period a stretch of bitter weather set in and has been prevailing ever since. The car shortage has been most pronounced, especially in the lower Connellsville coke region and the inclement weather has added to the difficulties of the operators by freezing up many streams.

The tail end of the year is coming on now too and some of the operators have to hustle to complete their contracts in order to a gain upon their new business. The manner in which the operators are hustling to get a good wind up of the year is best illustrated by the statement at nearly all the head offices that the manager is out. They have all been on the job.

The principal feature of the trade this week is the speculation on 1910 prices. There has been lots of speculating on this one point. Some of the most prominent operators hold out that there will be \$30 coke starting with the first of the year. Others hold the opinion that it will be down to \$20 and less all the time. The quotations from both sides are around the latter figure. Some are easing off a nickel either way in their opinions but the general belief that \$20 will be the prevailing figure appears to hold good in the majority of cases. Our Pittsburg prices are most reliable and we therefore quote them as a basis for quotations this week.

The general condition in the region remain practically unchanged except for the severe winter weather. It is holding but the movement of coal on the railroads and also regarding coke mining and coke drawing. With the bitter weather things generally move slowly and there is no exception this year. This week the most bitter weather of the year has been experienced.

Water is very scarce. The rainfall of the previous week helped out at the time but last week's freeze up succeeded in stopping many mountain streams. Labor conditions are not good but what men are in the region are making every work day count.

This Christmas pay to be distributed on the 27th will be one of the largest that has been received for two years at the plants of the H. C. Frick Coke Company and consequently some large distribution will be made at independent coke works.

Very few changes have occurred in the oven line. A few ovens are added and taken out, just as the labor conditions warrant, but an effort is being made to maintain a steady list of ovens even though some of them do not produce up to capacity. On the whole the situation in the trade prior to Christmas is such that it will bring Christmas cheer to thousands of homes and people.

All the officials express themselves as satisfied with the turn of events at the closing of the year.

Work Has Begun

The work of putting up the structural iron for the addition to the galvanizing plant of the American Sheet & Tin Plate Company at Scottdale was started yesterday morning and will be pushed along as fast as possible. The addition to the building is badly needed. The work will be pushed to completion as rapidly as possible as export business is rapidly increasing.

Old Percy Works to Operate Again, Deal Having Been Made.

Clair Stilwagen and R. Varietta, who recently bought the Percy coal and coke property, one of the oldest plants in the Connellsville region, are putting the ovens in repair and will commence to make coke soon after January 1st.

The property contains about 50 acres of Schewelley coal lying 80 feet above the Connellsville seam and about 22 acres of the latter seam. It is proposed to mix the coal of these seams in the proportion of two-thirds Schewelley to one-third Connellsville.

The production is said to be an excellent turnover coke has a light weight and up to the standard. It is in strong strength and porosity. It is also

FIRST AID SQUADS.

Delegates to Convention of Miners' Relief Hear Instructive Talks

Sixty delegates attended the open meeting of the annual convention of the Employes Relief Department of the Pittsburg Coal Company in the company's quarters at Pittsburg on Monday. The annual financial report of the relief department and pension fund was read and approved and the matter of first aid to the injured squads was discussed.

Dr. A. L. Russell, chief surgeon of the company, addressed the meeting on the benefits of retaining squads among the workmen to care for their fellow miners when injured. Relief squads have been organized in several mines of the company and the men are showing great interest in the plan.

Dr. Russell and J. E. McDonald, secretary of the Relief Department are pushing the movement for first aid squads in this section of the State. The good results from the plan in the anthracite regions led the local men to adopt the idea. Other companies are considering the organization of aid squads.

The Pittsburg Coal Company now has 33 mines working and 18,000 employees in service. It is proposed to train 18 men at each mine every year. It is figured no lives will be saved and much suffering prevented by having men at hand who are capable of dressing injuries and performing preliminary surgical operations.

The financial report shows total receipts of the Relief Department for the fiscal year ending October 1st amounting to \$140,095 and total disbursements aggregated, \$104,636.09 leaving cash balance on hand of \$11,397. Total benefits paid amounted to \$1,973.22. The report on the pension fund shows a balance of \$30,972.00, being a gain of nearly \$10,000 over last year.

Fatal accidents for the year numbered 12, deaths from other causes 59 and non-fatal accidents 1,253.

Organizing Oil Company.
The Mountaineer Oil & Gas Company of Clarksburg, W. Va., to develop oil gas and timber and other mineral lands in Hatcher Creek district Harrison county, W. Va., has been organized. In addition the company will operate a water and electric light plant and furnish heat and light. Capital \$200,000. Incorporators are A. B. Post, Jane Lew, W. Va., James H. Fields, Uniontown, Pa., B. H. Temple, Parkersburg, W. Va., P. W. Post, Mifflintown, W. Va., and W. D. Walker, Clarksburg, W. Va.

The principal by products obtained in these operations are gas, oil and ammonia. As to the oil and ammonia there has been the fear that the general operator of by product

(Continued on Second Page.)

BY-PRODUCT OVEN HAS BEEN IGNORED.

Contemporary Thinks That It Is Remarkable That It Has Not Been Adopted.

ARGUMENT IN ITS FAVOR

Old Operators However Cling to the Old Style Beehive Ovens—Some of the Points Set Forth in Trade Paper in Favor of It

It is little short of marvel that by and costs has not adopted so slowly in the United States. It is evident being so slow as to leave substantially no room for argument says the Coal & Coke Operator. It is true that more capital is required but the iron and steel industry has been ready to invest capital in other directions and in a certain amount of by product coke capacity has really been retarded by the largeness of the opportunities for investing capital in other directions. It is evident that the iron and steel industry must still buy, if it is to do so.

Related interest in the subject of by product coke is centered in a reformation that the United States Steel Corporation has entirely adopted the Coal & Coke Operator. It is true that more capital is required but the iron and steel industry has been ready to invest capital in other directions and in a certain amount of by product coke capacity has really been retarded by the largeness of the opportunities for investing capital in other directions. It is evident that the iron and steel industry must still buy, if it is to do so.

Both factors there is an apparent objection in this case must be disposed of and the coal which is much more than the coke which is left from it so that one might possibly suppose it would cost more to inspect coal than to use it in the plant which consumes the pig iron in with the coke the natural function of the by product coke unit is beside the unit of coke.

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ROCKS PLANTS IN A MERGER WITH \$2,500,000 BOND ISSUE.

Eight Plants of the Sunshine Coal & Coke Company and Other Property Included in Merger.

STEEL COMPANIES INTERESTED

With Fayette County Capitalists—All of the Bonds It Is Stated Have Been Subscribed For—Recent Coal Purchase Made by Mr. Rocks.

With the closing of a deal for a small acreage of coal Saturday afternoon was disclosed the plans for merging of the large coke interests held by Francis Rocks, and in which a number of Fayette county people are interested. The proposed reorganization will be capitalized at \$2,500,000 through bond issue, and will have control of 5,000 acres of Fayette county coal. Operating already are 150 ovens, with eight plants and contracts have been let for 150 more to be erected at the various plants of the company.

The eight plants of the company known as the Sunshine Coal & Coke Company were purchased by Francis Rocks in the past two years. He has operated them continuously in an individual way. Other capitalists, however, have now been interested and also some of the larger steel concerns in order to guarantee a continuous operation of the plants.

The output of the plants has been guaranteed by these independent steel operators for the next year. In addition to this Mr. Rocks has secured contracts which will guarantee an additional tonnage during the entire year. The bonds have already been taken up for the total amount of \$2,500,000. It is probable that no more additional property will be purchased, but that all efforts will be directed towards completing the work of building the remaining ovens necessary to guarantee the contracted supply. The contracts for the coke were made upon a basis of \$2.80 per ton for a period of one year.

It is interesting to note that Mr. Rocks began his career in Connellsville having operated a small custom coal bank under the most trying difficulties along Highland avenue and later closing it down. Undaunted by his difficulties he took up other small tracts of coal and finally located in the Lower Connellsville region. He secured 200 acres of coal there and followed it up by taking up other properties until at the present time he controls eight very valuable properties in the Lower coke region.

The recent coke merger idea suggested the present organization. Mr. Rocks thought that an individual merger would be as good as wholesale one and instead of endeavoring to sell properties decided to hold and buy them with the result that a large number of his friends in Fayette county were induced to invest in them.

Within a year the merger promises to reach at least \$5,000,000 as some of the men are anxious to increase the capitalization and take in more property. When the papers are delivered which will probably be about the first of the year Mr. Rocks expects to take something of a rest. He has made one trip to Europe and has visions of another journey in that direction.

The property purchased by Mr. Rocks on Saturday was that adjoining the old Chester plant, which was purchased recently from William Humphries of Scotland. It was owned by W. F. Humbert and is located near Vance's Mills.

The original idea of coking the coal from this tract was in view when the Chester plant was bought some weeks ago. The engineers have already started surveys and coke will be going from the new operation within a few days.

COAL MINING INSTITUTE MEETS

(Continued From First Page.) adopted by the H. C. Frick Coke Company, and J. J. Rutledge of the United States Geological Survey, who gave a technical talk on the results of using safety explosives. Several of the members took part in the discussion, in the course of which it was brought out that the mining interests are working for a union now among the several States, which will tend to assure efficiency and safety. J. W. Paul and George S. Rice of the Geological Survey were among those who took part in the discussion. Mr. Rice gave an address, illustrated by stereopticon views, on the Cherry Hill mine disaster.

At the morning session Tuesday officers were elected as follows: H. H. Stock, Urbana, Ill., President; A. W. Calloway, Punxsutawney; S. A. Taylor, Pittsburgh, and F. W. Cunningham, Charleroi, Vice Presidents; Charles L. Fay, Greensburg, Secretary and Treasurer; James Black, Crafton; J. W. Paul, Pittsburgh; J. B. Hanford, Morgantown, W. Va., and John Fullford, Dubois, with the above, form the executive committee.

New Merchant Appraiser. Ferdinand Swany, a storekeeper at Contention, Pa., has been appointed merchant appraiser of Fayette county, for the year beginning January 1, 1910.

Pit Posts For Sale.

Two carloads eight foot posts. Address P. O. Box 803, Connellsville, Pa.

LIST OF COKE OVENS IN The Connellsville District

With Their Owners, Address and Ovens in Blast Corrected to
Saturday, Dec. 18, 1909.

Total Ovens.	In Blast	Name of Works.	Name of Operators.	P. O. Address.
231	250	Acme	W. J. Rainey	New York, N. Y.
81	80	Acme	Penn Coke Co.	Uniontown
328	328	Arlithide	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
202	202	Altaverton No. 1	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
104	104	Altaverton No. 2	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Dunbar
50	40	Atlas No. 1	Cambria Steel Co.	Pittsburgh
357	359	Bazemore	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Monaca
120	120	Bethany	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Monaca
120	120	Blair	Majestic Coke Co.	Monaca
93	93	Blair	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Monaca
120	120	Bonne	Wharton Furnace Co.	Pittsburgh
240	240	Bronkirk	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
216	169	Buckeye	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
220	210	Brush Run	Brush Run Coke Company	Pittsburgh
210	210	Carlton	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
62	62	Carroll	Keystone Coal & Coke Co.	Greensburg
32	32	Chestnut	Peerless-Connellsville Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
54	54	Chestnut	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Monaca
100	100	Chestnut	Clare Coke Co.	Greensburg
100	100	Clarissa	James Cochran Sons Co.	Dawson
100	100	Collier	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
409	409	Continental No. 1	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
326	326	Continental No. 2	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
303	303	Continental No. 3	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
120	120	Crossland	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
323	323	Davidson	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
40	40	Dexter	J. R. Stauffer & Co.	Scottsdale
280	280	Dixie	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Monaca
48	48	Dunn	Monaca-Chestnut Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
40	40	Ellen No. 1	Wavy Coke Co.	Uniontown
28	28	Ellen No. 2	Wheel Coke Co.	Monaca
28	28	Ellen No. 3	Connellsville Coke Co.	New York, N. Y.
218	218	Elm Grove	W. J. Rainey	Pittsburgh
128	128	Enterprise	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	New York, N. Y.
120	120	Enterprise	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
60	60	Fairhill	W. J. Rainey	Monaca
120	120	Fay	Lincoln Coal & Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
16	16	Fritz	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
161	161	Gilmore	Gilmora Coke Co.	Monaca
122	122	Groves	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
212	212	Hedda	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Monaca
503	503	Hedda No. 2	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
304	304	Hedda No. 3	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
60	60	Hector	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Monaca
20	20	Henry Clay	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
100	100	Home	Stauffer & Wiley	Scottsdale
120	120	Humphreys	Hostetter-Connellsville Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
220	220	Junction	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
20	20	Kingsley	Marieira-Gilmer Coal & Coke Co.	Monaca
500	500	Lederer No. 1	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
500	500	Lederer No. 2	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
210	210	Lederer No. 3	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
227	227	Lemon No. 1	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
227	227	Lemon No. 2	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
39	39	Little Sunshine	King Coke Co.	Monaca
120	120	Long	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
45	45	Madison	United Connellsville Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
40	40	Moore	Maiges Coke Co.	Uniontown
32	32	Moor	Caribean Steel Co.	Pittsburgh
40	40	Moor	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Udell, Pa.
120	120	Moor	Marion Coke Co.	Connellsville
120	120	Morgan	Marion-Chestnut Coke Co.	New York, N. Y.
220	220	Morgan	Monroe Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
100	100	Mt. Hennock	W. J. Rainey	Monaca
100	100	Mt. Pleasant	Mt. Pleasant-Connellsville Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
120	120	Mt. Pleasant	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
120	120	Mt. Pleasant	Perry Mining Co.	Pittsburgh
120	120	Mt. Pleasant	Monaca-Chestnut Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
120	120	Mt. Pleasant	Brownfield-Chestnut Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
32	32	Nalle	Brown & Goshorn	Monaca
22	22	Oliver No. 1	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Dawson
22	22	Oliver No. 2	Oliver & Snyder Steel Co.	Pittsburgh
45	45	Oliver No. 3	Oliver & Snyder Steel Co.	Pittsburgh
30	30	Oliver No. 4	Oliver & Snyder Steel Co.	Pittsburgh
28	28	Paul	W. J. Rainey	Pittsburgh
25	25	Penns	Penns Valley Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
20	20	Penns	Perry Mining Co.	Pittsburgh
20	20	Phillips	Monaca-Chestnut Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
82	82	Rainey	W. J. Rainey	New York, N. Y.
416	416	Redstone	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
40	40	Reed	Monaca-Chestnut Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
26	26	Reed	Shannon Coal & Coke Co.	Dunbar
110	110	Reed	Dunbar Furnace Co.	Monaca
50	50	Reed	Shannon Coal & Coke Co.	Monaca
100	100	Reed	South Pittsburg & Coal Co.	Pittsburgh
220	220	Southwest No. 1	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
200	200	Southwest No. 2	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
120	120	Southwest No. 4	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
81	81	Spring Grove	Cochran Bros.	Dawson
501	501	Standard	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
100	100	Standard No. 2	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
153	153	Stewart	Stewart Iron Co.	Monaca
24	24	Summit	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
121	121	Thomson	Whel Coke Co.	Monaca
40	40	Thomson	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
48	48	Trotter	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
54	54	Tyron	American Coal Mining Co.	Pittsburgh
220	220	United	W. J. Rainey	New York, N. Y.
220	220	Valley	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
50	50	Veteran	Veteran Coke Co.	Greensburg
20	20	Whitney	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
232	232	Whitney	Monaca-Chestnut Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
200	200	Wynn	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
64	64	Yorkrun	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
210	210	Youngstown	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburgh

Coke-**BRICK**-Ovens EVERY TYPE OF OVEN.

Conceded by operators to be the highest quality on the market. Large stock carried at all times.

Uniform workmanship. The brick most suitable for modern conditions.

This has been proved by large demand for our material in Long, By-Product and Machine Drawn Beehive Ovens.

For further details address,

Harbison-Walker Refractories Co.
PITTSBURGH, PA.

Orient Coke Co.,

Furnace and Foundry Coke.

Works: ORIENT, PA.
Main Office: UNIONTOWN, PA.

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THURSDAY MORNING, DEC. 23/09.

THE MERGER SPIRIT
IN THE COKE REGION

The consolidation of the eight coke plants owned and operated by Francis Rocks and his associates, and the flotation of a bond issue of \$2,500,000, indicate that the merger spirit is by no means dead in the Connellsville coke region.

If the merger of eight independent plants is good business in good times, it is evident that a merger of eighty or more coke plants was a wise proposition in bad times.

The failure of the proposed Connellsville coke merger, after the preliminary work had been so thoroughly done and valuations so equitably fixed, was unfortunate for all the interests concerned and particularly so for the operators themselves, but so far as the latter are concerned, this misfortune is not now apparent. It is a theory, not a condition.

The revival of business, and the oncoming of a veritable coke boom, has brought the coke operators more prosperity than they dreamed of extracting from the merger, and many of them witnessed its demise with feelings of relief.

Nevertheless, we will indulge the prophecy that the merger is not dead, but only sleeping, and that the next touch of hard times will arouse it into activity again. It is the only remedy for cutthroat competition when industrial stagnation ensues. It is the only effective plan of conserving coke values. It is the only certain means of regulating production to demand and maintaining prices at profitable levels in all seasons.

To sum up, it is so plain a business proposition that it will persist in presenting itself to the common sense of the coke operators in periods of adversity, and its ultimate adoption in some form, and in some measure is inevitable.

THE COURSE OF
COKE DEVELOPMENT.

The last considerable tract of low-grade coke in Connellsville has passed into an operating proposition.

The fact is significant, especially to the holders of the trans Monongahela coking coal. It means that the course of Connellsville coke production is on its way into Greene County. Already large tracts of this coal have been sold to operating interests and their development will doubtless soon begin.

The price paid to date has been paid for this tract of coal by one of the oldest and most experienced coking interests in the Connellsville field, has established a pretty fair value for the coal lands of the Lower Connellsville region, and will doubtless set a new high mark for Greene county coal, which is a continuation of the same seam with practically the same qualities.

Westward the course of coke takes its way.

CONNELLSVILLE
COMING NOT GOING.

The announcement of an attorney connected with the Western Maryland that the company would positively construct the proposed line from Cumberland to Connellsville to connect with the Lake Erie system, may or may not be official, but taken in connection with other official announcements of the company, it is reasonable to assume that it is fairly represents the present plans.

That being the case there is no reason to look the story in any of its parts and the information that shops will be located here is decidedly interesting especially to West Side people. It begins to look as if Connellsville so far from being a declining town had taken a new lease on growth and greatness, and the feelings grows that an active Chamber of Commerce and the hearty cooperation of the business public will insure us a new and great Flying Era of Progress.

Let everybody Get Busy in the Good Work.

CONGRESSMAN TENER'S
INDUSTRIAL INVESTIGATION

Honorable John Kinney Tener has introduced a resolution in the House of Representatives providing for a Congressional investigation of industrial conditions in the mills in Western Pennsylvania.

The resolution is in response to the demand of the labor union leaders after the Pressed Steel Car strike at Schenaville. The investigation will probably not be opposed by the manufacturing interests of Western Pennsylvania. The latter should welcome it. With possibly a few exceptions they have nothing to fear from it.

But whether they have or not, the resolution should pass and the investigation should be made. Much has been said by both parties to the Schenaville trouble, and much is con-

tinuously said on both sides of the labor question, especially if it involves trades unions. An investigation will serve the cause of truth and enable the public to judge intelligently between the disputants.

A Congressional investigation is not always above the suspicion of politics, but if the committee is impartial in taking testimony and that testimony is published to the world, the people will draw their own conclusions regardless of the findings of the committee.

In this particular case, however, there is no reason to doubt the sincerity of the proposed inquiry or the justice of its final judgment.

THE UNTIMELY END
OF A BUSY PUBLIC LIFE

The political and editorial world of Pennsylvania is stirred to depths of regret by the announcement of the accidental death of Thomas Valentine Cooper of Delaware county, the veteran politician and editor.

Before his hair turned gray it was a sunny hub tinged with autumn. His disposition was even more sunny. On a memorable occasion, when Pennsylvania Republican factions were about to spring at each other's throats and endanger all Republican success, he brought forth the message of peace and earned for himself the sobriquet of "The golden-haired angel of reconciliation."

He had other names but they were not evil names. All were loving, because "Tom" Cooper was a lovable man.

He served his friends faithfully and fought his enemies fairly. He loved peace but he was never a coward. He was a hard worker all his life, but seldom for himself alone.

He was a Scatterer of Sunshine, an Enemy of Dust Care a Friend of Humanity, a Brother in Sympathy.

He so lived that when he died he went not like the galley slave secured to his dungeon, but upright and fearless, conscious of a busy life spent in the service of his family, his friends, his constituents, his country and his God.

THE YOUNG RIVER
IMPROVEMENT BILL.

The Youghiogheny river improvement bill is a model of brevity. It reads as follows:

Be it enacted, etc. That the Youghiogheny River in Western Pennsylvania be improved by the construction of the necessary locks and dams to secure a channel depth of not less than 6 feet in the Monongahela River.

The bill is also general in character. It doesn't necessarily stop at West Newton. The Improvement may come to Connellsville. Under this bill, if it becomes law, the canalization of the river will advance just as fast and as far as the appropriations under it are made.

This advancement will be step by step and slowly and it will probably be many years before Connellsville has river navigation but we will in the meantime not be without hope.

THE B. & O PREPARING
FOR BIG BUSINESS

The Baltimore & Ohio management is evidently preparing as rapidly as possible to meet the demands of the industrial revival.

It proposes to double track the Fairmont and Somersett branches to re-build the ruined mile long river tracks through its Connellsville yards to see a low grade rate over the mountains, and to make divers easier to rovers in other localities all tening to facilitate the movement of traffic.

Nothing is said concerning the proposed new union depot in Connellsville but perhaps the advent of a fourth system may stimulate action.

The Smith estate controversy is well open at last and with the verdict of the jury rendered after full and final investigation of the merits of the case there will be no appeal to the public mind. The issues of fact which the Orphans' Court of Fayette county certified for trial seem to be settled when the trial is at the points in the controversy and to invite the elements must stand or fall in their contention.

The Farmers' Union of Fayette county is not a trust, but it is trustworthy.

Uniform compensation for uniform service is just and equitable and it applies to freight rates as well as trainmen's wages.

It looks as if the dangers of the sand Patch group had not yet been entirely eliminated.

Uniontown manufacturing industries have the merger fever.

The iron plate mill has taken a new start.

The assessors are closing out to quit business.

When the Church Organ gets off the Water Wagon there's nothing doing in the musical line.

The gas man and the plumber are shaking hands with each other.

Lynch law will govern national baseball affairs during the coming season.

The sudden cold snaps make the people of mine inspection much more important.

An Ohio girl has been arrested charged with being a bigamist. She should bring a fair trial on the Monongahela.

It looks like \$3 coke for 1910, but it also looks as if that was the limit.

The Telephone Trust is in danger of a stiff dose of regulation in defense of the public welfare.

Advertise and the world will trade with you, sleep and you'll be left alone.

The B. & O has some interesting rolling stock to be left.

The law forbids discrimination in insurance rates as well as railroad trades unions. An investigation will serve the cause of truth and enable the public to judge intelligently between the disputants.

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Suburban Jim Smith has been recommended for pardon by the prosecutors, having generally joined in the petition. We trust that he returns home a changed and charitable man, with a heart big with love instead of filled with hate.

Politicians show signs of warming up in spite of the cold weather. But the new, towable, nominations are reasonable and proper but it's a terrible task for Congressional ambitions. They are in danger of being frost bitten.

Million dollar coking deals are in danger of becoming common.

The open gas grate or stove should be screened especially in homes where little children are. Wire screens are effective and inexpensive.

The Hard property has been connected with a great many industrial propositions. It is to be hoped that this will be screened especially in homes where little children are. Wire screens are effective and inexpensive.

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DISPUTE OVER SMITH ESTATE GOES TO COURT FOR JURY TRIAL.

Contestants Score Their First Victory Since Litigation Over Connellsville Property Began.

JUDGE WORK MAKES THE ORDER

Jury in Common Pleas Court Will Pass on Questions of Fact Concerning the Case—Other News of the Orphans' Court.

UNIONTOWN, Dec. 20.—The alleged heirs of Berthanna R. Smith, late of Connellsville, scored their first victory in the contest to secure control of the estate today when Judge J. C. Work, in Orphans' Court, handed down an order allowing the petition of the St. Louis heirs, Samuel, John and Charles Smith, and certifying the case to the Court of Common Pleas for a trial by jury.

The jury will pass on the questions of fact in the case, among which are the following. Whether the late Berthanna R. Smith had only a life interest in the estate, whether she intended these heirs to have her property upon her death, whether there was a will making such a disposition which has since disappeared, whether these heirs are children, by adoption; whether an escheat has taken place.

The three Smiths are the children of Robert Smith, the husband of Berthanna R. Smith.

At the time of Mrs. Smith's death there were no known heirs and Logan Rush, then Register and Recorder of the county reported an escheat to the Commonwealth. H. M. Kephart of Connellsville was named escheator. Since that time various heirs have appeared but the three Smith boys of St. Louis are making by far the most determined fight to prevent an escheat.

In the estate of Elizabeth Irwin late of Uniontown, two orders were made by Judge Work this morning in the real estate, an order was made for the distribution of \$324 among the various heirs in the distribution of personal property a dispute has been adjusted. Rene B. Wyckoff, who claimed \$3,000 for services as nurse to the deceased, compromised on \$1,200, which left a small balance for distribution.

In the estate of Jacob Frederick late of Brownsville an order was made for the distribution of \$829. There are about 30 heirs, scattered in different parts of the country and Germany.

In the estate of Elizabeth Stewart late of Ebensburg an order was made allowing a sale of two lots to William Glotfelty. This sale was agreed to by the deceased who died before it could be consummated.

F. D. Manson, J. Kirk Renner and W. R. Hiltner were admitted to practice in the Orphans' Court this morning.

MERRITT NOT FINED FOR HUNTING ON SUNDAY

Story About Lower Tyrone Township Resident That Was Fiction and Did Him Injustice

The Courier is in receipt of the following letter from H. S. Merritt, a well known and highly respected citizen of Lower Tyrone township in regard to an item recently published in the Courier from Dawson, and which the Mr. Merritt an injustice.

There was an article published in the Courier a few days since stating that Henry Merritt of Lower Tyrone township had been prosecuted for shooting a rabbit on Sunday, arrested by Constable MacClelland and fined \$1 by Justice R. M. Wright of Dawson. This is a fiction in every particular. I have not fired a revolver for three months at anything. Neither was I ever arrested in my life for shooting a rabbit on Sunday of any other day nor did I ever pay one cent of my costs for the same. So greatest care has been taken of the article herein referred to.

I would request that your correspondent who wrote the article for publication be careful to refer to my life and verify the truth of his statements before he sends them out for publication especially things that would have a tendency to throw a reflection on people's credit or name.

FAMILY IS DESTITUTE; FATHER COLD IN DEATH

Sad Case Reported Saturday Morning From Broad Ford at Boyd Home

BROAD FORD, Dec. 18.—James A. Boyd, aged about 50 years, died last night at his home here amid sad circumstances. The family is in destitute circumstances. A wife and six children survive. The house in which Boyd lived is bare to a large degree of furniture and the children have been sleeping on straw on the floor.

Boyd's body was taken to the undertaking rooms of J. F. Sims at Connellsville this morning from where the funeral will be held at Broad Ford at 2 o'clock tomorrow afternoon. The cause of Boyd's death was alcoholism.

A baby girl, a bouncing 11 pound baby, girl, lived at the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Brooks of Greenwood Saturday evening. Mr. Brooks is Division Cashier of the West Penn Railways Company.

RELIC COACHES OF B & O.

Are Not All in Use on Local Passenger Trains

The Baltimore & Ohio yards of late have held some curious things on wheels. A few days ago two engines of an antiquated type were being hauled east while this morning attached to the rear of a westbound freight were three coaches the like of which had never been seen here for years. The coaches, originally belonging to the New York & Brooklyn Bridge Railroad, they are of a type of coach that was in use on the B. & O. and other roads some 20 years ago. The coaches are being sent west for use on some one of the many small roads in the section.

DUNBAR TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS IN PLAY

Pupils of the High School Entertained Their Friends Yesterday Afternoon

Standing room was at a premium Friday evening at an entertainment given in the Dunbar Township High School Auditorium by the Friends and Fellowship Literary Societies. A special car was run from Dickerson Run to accommodate the many people who assembled to listen to a most interesting program rendered by members of the two societies. The service was excellent and as a whole the affair was a great success. In the main hall home made candy was sold from booths in charge of young ladies from the two societies. The spacious auditorium was handsomely decorated for the occasion in the High School colors red and black. Artistic arrangements of potted plants introduced a touch of green into the color scheme.

The program opened with the following musical and literary program: piano solo, Mary Felch's recitation; The Flag, the Immigrant Cheered—Dale Donovan, vocal duet, Anna Hughes and Estella Dunlap recitation; Mary Queen of Scots, Julian Nease solo; Richard M. T. Tach's selection showed very careful preparation as ability on the part of the students.

The remainder of the evening was taken up with a play of two acts entitled, A Bunch of Lovers. The cast was composed of Will Grey, Bertha Fether, Margaret Hughes, Ethel Kline, Wanda Morris, Gilbert Jones, Alberta Harris and Ralph Boyd. The work of each of the cast was excellent and brought forth great applause from the audience. Quite a neat little sum was realized for the benefit of the High School.

COUNTY OFFICERS GET AFTER SLOT MACHINES

Visits to Uniontown and Dunbar Merchants Produces Results for Detectives

UNIONTOWN, Dec. 18.—The slot machines are being put out of business by the county authorities. Earlier in the week County Detective Alex McBeth gave the Uniontown merchants notice to remove the machines within three days while this morning County Detective J. McLaughlin went to Dunbar on a similar mission.

In Uniontown the effort did not meet with the principal object to which the authorities were opposed. With this arrangement the player did not blank and his pay to the amount mentioned on the slip. It might be 5 cents or \$100.

At Dunbar the machines gave out tokens from a slot of choices up to \$100 in real money. County Detective McLaughlin said the machines were being investigated by William Rice of Connellville.

HEARING ON YOUGH ARRANGED BY DALzell

Date Set for January 5 and Delegation From Connellsville Will Be Present

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—Congressman John Dalzell yesterday arranged with the city and harbor committee for a hearing on the proposed improvement of the Yough River which looks and does it will the Pennsylvania State Auditor General, J. M. Dolzel, will have representatives of business interests in the state to address the committee on that subject.

Rep. George C. Shultz, of the 10th district, from Connellsville, also

arranged with the city and harbor committee for a hearing on the proposed improvement of the Yough River which looks and does it will the Pennsylvania State Auditor General, J. M. Dolzel, will have representatives of business interests in the state to address the committee on that subject.

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The first congressional hearing on the proposed improvement

WEST PENN WILL SPEND \$100,000 ON ROLLING STOCK FOR SYSTEM.

Bids Are Now Being Received for 11 New Steel Cars Similar to Those Recently Purchased.

FOR USE ON THE MAIN LINE

It is Expected That Several of the New Cars Will Be Put in Service Between Uniontown and Greensburg —New Motor and Brake Equipment

Following its usual policy of being to the fore in having the best of everything, the West Penn Railway Company announced Tuesday that the construction of 11 new interurban cars of a type similar to those purchased a year ago has been authorized. Bids are now being received from the various car building plants for this order. As the same authorization carries with it the purchase of motor and brake equipment it will mean the expenditure of nearly \$100,000 for new rolling stock.

The new cars are to be of steel construction and will be among the largest cars used in this country on interurban trolley roads. The company already has several of these cars in operation, two on the main line and the others in the Brownsville division. They have given such universal satisfaction that the purchase of others was ordered.

It is expected that several of these cars will be placed in service on the main line between Uniontown and Greensburg. As soon as the cars can be built and equipped they will be put in service.

Increased traffic on the system has made the purchase of additional rolling stock necessary. With a restoration of business in the coke region traffic has again picked up and the present resources of the company are seriously taxed to meet the ever increasing demands upon it.

J. J. Driscoll Three Years Superintendent

J. J. Driscoll Monday celebrated his third anniversary as Superintendent of the Connellsville division of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad. He was appointed to the position December 20, 1906, and since assuming charge of the division he had but one change in his office family. Harry Daniels, his going to a more lucrative position in the West.

Since assuming charge of the division Mr. Driscoll has not had a single big accident. The increase in business has resulted in many changes being necessary one of which was the establishment of new division headquarters at the depot. In addition to the work there his office has a large increase in business on the division and freight tonnage records have soared.

Under his management overtime has been practically unknown until the last few weeks when bad weather and a dash of traffic caused many crews to remain on duty longer than the regular time.

Other superintendents have lasted from eight to 18 months before breaking up against the Connellsville division. Mr. Driscoll's completion of three years in the job is no small achievement. He started railroading 12 years ago as a telegraph operator in Connellsville and worked his way up as a dispatcher, then trainmaster and late Superintendent.

BLOOD VESSEL BURST, DEATH COMES SUDDENLY

Friends Mourn Untimely Taking Of
of Conductor Sam S. Miller of
Fairchance.

Conductor Sam S. Miller of the Connellsville & Pittsburgh railroad made wide known and felt the loss of thousands of patrons of the Pennsylvania railroad throughout Western Pennsylvania. His sudden death was received in Pittsburgh, Monday, afternoon. News of his death was received in Fayette county with universal regret. The remains were brought to Fairchance where his conductors and sons had met to accompany his body to a more lucrative position in the West.

Conductor Miller, 46, and off duty Tuesday, complained of feeling ill. Yesterday, after noon, he had a vessel burst in his stomach and death came almost before a physician could be summoned.

Mr. Miller leaves a wife and three children in Fairchance, and had been in the service of the Pennsylvania railroad nearly 20 years.

DEATH IN WEST

Simon Lutsey of Hawkes called by Death in Arizona

OWENSDALE, Dec. 21.—Special—Simon Lutsey, 50, received word here today that his brother, Simon, is dead at Phoenix, Ariz., from a heart attack, from tuberculosis and was advised by his physician to come for the benefit of his health. He left for Arizona unaccompanied and for a few months he saw but 100 yards of either from any of his kinsfolk or friends.

Mr. Lutsey's wife, Mrs. Hawkes, 48, miles north of Scranton, Pa., her friends are expected here at 1 P.M. today.

SOLD FOR BOARD

Horse at Dull's that Attenuated in His Head Off

Simon Frank Miller, 41, a trolley conductor, died at Dull & Company's feed store when a horse he was riding bolted and a board hit the animal. The animal was left there three weeks ago and has not been taken care of.

It is Adams purchased in animal being the highest bidder with \$10.

Young Girl Has Narrow Escape, Dress Took Fire

Helen McCullough, 10 year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford McCullough, Carnegie avenue, narrowly escaped burning to death Monday night when a garment she was wearing burst suddenly at the home of her parents.

Mr. McCullough is 30 and the child has been attending to small household duties. Last evening she was brushing the crumbs off the table and went to the grate to throw them in. In some manner her dress caught fire. Her screams brought to her assistance George Phillips, a roomer in the house who managed to extinguish the fire. The dress was severely charred.

The girl was painlessly burned about the body and was attended by Dr. H. F. Atkinson. The most serious symptom was the shock to Mrs. McCullough who heard the screams of the little girl.

BOOTLEGTERS CAUGHT AND PLACED IN JAIL

Had Been Supplying Man of Known
Intemperate Habits With Booze
at Uniontown.

UNIONTOWN, Dec. 21.—Colfax Myers and Frank Worthington were jailed this morning by County Detective Alex McCall. They will be given hearing on charges of furnishing liquor to Phil Johnson, person of intemperate habits.

The case will be heard by Justice John Boyce.

Tommy Collins, claimant West Virginia, in his home, was arrested last night for giving a 14 year old boy a glass of beer in Lord's restaurant. The claimant has had his "as" since the case several days ago and has subsisted on the proceeds derived from the sale of needles and other household articles.

BREAK IN PIPE REPAIRED

in Every 24 Hours 30,000 Gallons of Water Wasted

OWENSDALE, Dec. 21.—(Special)—The leak in the water line of the West Penn Water Company beneath the ash dump of the Keister works here is at last "sealed" after causing endless trouble in locating it. The leak happened to be a defective section of pipe which when first laid was slightly cracked. It was immediately at the time it had laid in the vicinity of the Keister plant, a 1000 cubic yards gravel, which covered the crack which was uncovered almost the entire time it was underground. Robert Lee was found not guilty of charges of robbery and assault and battery to kill preferred by Charles Michael, but the costs were placed on him. John Glaser of Keister was sentenced to serve a minimum of nine months and a maximum of three years in the penitentiary. Peter N. Stroh, who pleaded guilty to a charge of aggravated assault and battery preferred by John Glaser, was sentenced to serve a maximum of 18 months in the penitentiary. 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ALBERT WEIHE ELECTED AS TRUSTEE OF WEIHE ESTATE.

His Name Is Decided Upon Among the Heirs by Charles and Henry Weihe, Surviving Members.

CONDITIONS OF THE TRUST

Henry Weihe Turned Over Seven Pieces of Property, Proceeds to Be Divided Equally Every Three Months Among Six—Other Provisions.

Albert Weihe of Butler has been elected by the surviving trustees of the Weihe trust to succeed the late William Weihe as a trustee. The notice of this appointment was filed in Uniontown Tuesday with the deed of trust that was recorded there at the time of its formation in 1904. This trust regulates the Weihe estate under certain terms and provisions.

It was on April 1, 1904, that William Weihe turned over to the trust, composed of William Weihe and his two sons, Charles and Henry, seven pieces of property in exchange for \$1 and other valuable considerations. The parties of the second part turned over to the trust 26 shares of stock in the Monongahela Water Company, 50 shares of Sligo Iron & Steel Company and 20 shares of Pittsburg Safe Company.

The seven pieces of property turned over to the trust were as follows: Part No. 1, part of lot 102 on Main street, with a frontage of 32 feet on that thoroughfare and 115 feet along Pittsburg street; No. 2, the southwest corner of the same lot on Main or Spring street; No. 3, the property at the corner of Pittsburg street and Church Place; No. 4, part of the same lot sold to William Weihe by S. H. Dushane; No. 5, the property at the corner of Johnston avenue and Fayette street; No. 6, the property at the corner of Pittsburg street and Francis avenue; No. 7, the property on Francis avenue formerly owned by Samuel Freeman.

The trustees are required to keep in repair all the property under their control and to collect the rents and interest. They are to create a fund for the benefit of the estate not to exceed 5 per cent of the monthly income. This fund is never to exceed \$10,000.

The proceeds are to be distributed every three months equally among the following: William, Charles, Henry, Louis and Albert Weihe and Dorothy Weihe Bergman. In event of the death of William Weihe the balance is to be divided equally among his heirs.

Upon the death of a trustee the remaining members are to appoint another one. This trust is to be continued for three years after the death of William Weihe and can be renewed for another period of three years or dissolved, as the trustees may desire.

Before the death of William Weihe none of the property can be sold but after his death it can be sold with the consent of the majority of the trustees. The deed of trust was recorded August 2, 1904.

William Weihe died last Friday and his successor has been appointed on the board of trustees. The trust will continue for three years before the estate can be closed finally and may be continued for another three years.

WHITE FILES DEFENSE IN SUIT AGAINST HIM

Brought By The School Directors of Somersett Township For Close to \$200.

UNIONTOWN, Dec. 16.—C. M. White, treasurer of the Somersett Township School Board, puts up a spirited legal defense to the suit of the school directors seeking to set aside the final settlement and recover funds alleged to have been paid him on fraudulent orders.

The school directors entered suit for \$137.75, contending that the settlement was made on the basis of a forged check. The final audit of the school accounts was made on June 12, 1908, and afterwards the School Board claimed to have discovered irregularities. It was charged that an order in favor of Roy Henry, for \$2.25 was paid by White and then presented to the audit and White credited with \$40. Orders in favor of W. E. Richard, Ray Fletcher, Joseph Adams and J. H. Craig, for \$40 each were turned in as orders for \$80 each and credit given the treasurer for such amounts.

White in his latest statement denies that he, or any one else, changed the orders, averring that all the orders he presented to the audit on June 12, 1908, were for the exact amount he paid on the said orders.

He denies that notice was served on him within 30 days after the audit of June 12, 1908, declaring that at this late date, he declares that the account cannot legally be opened and therefore the directors are bound by the settlement already made and cannot recover under any circumstances.

To Oversee Shop Work. P. J. Sullivan and J. E. Hefty, two expert railroad men, are in Connellsville to oversee work in the Connellsville shop of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad. Following the strike of the miners, they went thither with the release of a large number of men necessary to place experienced men in the shops.

Uniontown Men Helped. George E. Tilton and Robert F. Sample, Uniontown hotel men, have been re-elected president and secretary, respectively, of the Pennsylvania Hotel Men's Association.

PETITION ANSWERED

In Lorenzo Niosi Case by the Title & Trust Company.

UNIONTOWN, Dec. 17.—In the estate of Lorenzo Niosi, late of Connellsville, the Title & Trust Company of Western Pennsylvania, has answered the petition for a citation to show cause why letters of administration granted to them should not be revoked. Petition for the citation was filed by Francesco Niosi, who signed a paper renouncing his right to serve as administrator, and later denied that he knew the contents of the paper when he signed it.

The trust company contends that he was fully aware of the nature of the paper to which he placed his signature and that, since the Register and Recorder used his lawful discretion in making the appointment, he now has no authority to revoke the same.

STATE TO PROBE TELEPHONE RATES.

The State Railroad Commission Will Start Investigation to Bring About Reform.

A state-wide investigation of telephone rates is shortly to be undertaken by the State Railroad Commission, with a view to the enactment of a law that will bring about needed reforms and require uniformity of rates throughout Pennsylvania.

This investigation will be undertaken under the terms of a resolution of the last Legislature, approved by Governor Stuart, May 13, last, setting forth that great differences exist in telephone rates in various parts of the State, and that in some places they are so high as to be almost prohibitive.

The railroad commission is directed to set up an inquiry immediately, and to include in its report the conditions found in every city, borough and township. As this will involve a tremendous amount of work, it is expected that the investigation will soon be started, in order that the report may be ready for the next legislature, together with a bill to bring about the needed reforms, as provided for in the resolution.

The inquiry doubtless will go into the subject of recent consolidations of telephone companies, by means of which the control of all the lines in Pennsylvania have passed into the hands of outside companies, with headquarters in New York city.

A year or more ago the Pennsylvania Telephone Company, operating the Bell system throughout interior Pennsylvania, and the Bell Telephone Company of Philadelphia were combined in the Bell Telephone Company of Pennsylvania. Three or four months ago the stock of the Bell Telephone Company of Pennsylvania was purchased by the American Telephone & Telegraph Company, with headquarters in New York, the same company which has since absorbed the Western Union Telegraph Company.

No Bell lines in Pennsylvania remain even nominally outside of this combine except the Central District & Printing Telegraph Company of Pittsburgh, and it is reported that this, too, will shortly be absorbed into the New York owned Bell Telephone Company of Pennsylvania.

Virtually all the independent lines in Pennsylvania were merged a year or more ago into the American Union Telephone Company, with headquarters in Harrisburg, and two weeks ago came the announcement that this had been taken into a big combination of independent lines under the name of the Continental Telephone Company, with headquarters likewise in New York.

The fact that but one more consolidation will be necessary to wipe out all the competition that exists in Pennsylvania will doubtless be considered by the commission, and also the question whether new laws are needed to protect the Pennsylvania public from rates imposed by the foreign corporations that already control both the Bell and the independent systems from one end of the State to the other.

Under the act of 1907, creating it, the railroad commission has full authority to demand to see all books, papers, contracts and other documents of common carrier corporations doing business in Pennsylvania. The investigation, therefore, is likely to be of the most searching character.

MAY SETTLE CASE.

Was Result of an Injunction Suit at Ohio.

UNIONTOWN, Dec. 17.—Negotiations were in progress Thursday for a settlement of the equity suit of J. P. Holt and H. T. Holt against Cyrus Show all parties living at Ohio.

The Hols sought to restrain Show from interfering with the disposition of 63,000 feet of lumber, ownership of which was disputed. Adjudgment until 7:30

was then taken when the house was sold to its fell capacity.

After music by the choir "I Love to Tell the Story," Mrs. Sarah B. F. Ziegler of Perry county, spoke on "Our Country Home." She held the audience spellbound throughout the entire time. She was followed by H. W. Northup of Luzerne county, who gave a lengthy talk on the pleasant side of country home. Mr. Northup was well fitted for the occasion and the audience enjoyed 40 minutes of merit. A lengthy discussion of questions was followed by adjournment until Thursday morning at 9:30.

Arguing Court December 27. Argument court has been fixed for Monday, December 27, at which time the list will be called.

Viewers Named.

UNIONTOWN, Dec. 14.—In the case of the Monongahela Railroad against Katy Ann Miller, the court Monday appointed William Thompson, George L. Moore, C. J. McCormick, Thomas B. Shuman, Fred Frost, L. C. Waggoner and B. C. Strickler as viewers.

Predicting \$3 Coke.

The coke operators at Uniontown are predicting \$3 furnace coke with the opening of the new year.

LIVE FARMERS ABOUT SCOTTDALE.

A Score Meet to Arrange for Their Coming Institute

AT PETERSON COLLEGE HALL

Scottdale Institutes Gather Larger Crowds It Is Said Than All Other Similar Assemblies in Westmoreland County.

SCOTTDALE, Dec. 16.—Nearly a score of the farmers of this locality gathered at the Kroener House last night for the purpose of making up a program for the combined local and State Farmers' Institute to be held here on Monday and Tuesday, January 24 and 25, 1910. Edward Werkman presided and W. C. Myers was Secretary and a very interesting program was made up. The State did not see its way clear to give a regular institute at Scottdale this year as they are spreading the work to other localities, where the great interest in institutes that this community evinces has not yet been attained. In previous institutes the attendance at Scottdale alone has been greater in numbers than at all the other institutes held in Westmoreland county. With such an interest Scottdale determined to hold their own institute and the State concluded that it would be worth while to send two of their lecturers here. So the State will be represented by F. H. Fassett of Meshoppen, Wyoming county, and J. T. Campbell of Hartstown, Crawford county. The program throughout is one of remarkable local interest. There will be both vocal and instrumental music interspersed throughout all the sessions, and every one will be closed with a question box.

The place of the institute will be in the rooms of the Peterson Business College in the Scottdale Savings & Trust building, where a number of the previous institutes have been held. The local people will be put to the expense of holding this meeting, the State furnishing nothing free but the speakers a concession which was only secured through the activity of the local people and the large attendance that Scottdale has always turned out.

FALLEN TIMBERS CHURCH CLEARS TITLE TO LAND.

It Was Sold Contrary to Provisions of Will and Title Was Clouded.

UNIONTOWN, Dec. 15.—The trustees of the Fallen Timbers Methodist church of Springfield township have executed a quit claim in favor of Thomas Blossey for 14 acres of land in Springfield. This was necessary in order to clear the title to the property.

It was in 1904 that Asbury J. Howell died and left to his wife his entire estate for her use during life. This included the 14 acres mentioned above. After her death the property was to revert to the Fallen Timbers church.

Mr. Howell sold the 14 acres to Blossey for \$1,200, but Blossey has later advised that the title was under a cloud.

By a vote of 21 to 3 the congregation voted to execute a quit claim to the property. Blossey is a member of the church. The court is asked to approve the action.

The opening session will be held on Monday afternoon, January 24, at 1:30 o'clock, opening with an invocation. George B. Shupe of town is scheduled to make the address of welcome, and J. R. Truxal of Greensburg, the response. "Poultry, Breeds and Breeding" by Mr. Campbell follows, and "The Possibilities of Apples in Pennsylvania" by Mr. Fassett. Then Cyrus Glous of Mt. Pleasant, a successful corn grower, will talk on that phase of farming. The session at 7:30 that evening will be opened by Rev. D. W. Michael, pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Scottdale, on "Three Elements of a Farmer's Success." Mr. Fassett will lecture on "Spraying and Marketing Fruits," and Mr. Campbell will lecture on a subject of vital importance at this time, "Profitable Egg Production," his lecture being illustrated.

Tuesday morning's session will open at 9 o'clock, with Mr. Campbell's lecture "Feeding and Care of Little Chicks." James B. Frost, a large fruit grower, will tell "How I Manage My Orchard." Mr. Frost owns the largest and best type of power spraying machine in the county. L. H. Hough of near Reaumont is scheduled for a talk on "Successful Potato Growing," a subject that he is well versed in. Fred Jones, the lecturer on Potions Grange, is scheduled for a talk on "Clovers and Other Grasses."

The fact that but one more consolidation will be necessary to wipe out all the competition that exists in Pennsylvania will doubtless be considered by the commission, and also the question whether new laws are needed to protect the Pennsylvania public from rates imposed by the foreign corporations that already control both the Bell and the independent systems from one end of the State to the other.

Under the act of 1907, creating it, the railroad commission has full authority to demand to see all books, papers, contracts and other documents of common carrier corporations doing business in Pennsylvania. The investigation, therefore, is likely to be of the most searching character.

Officers and speakers were promptly on hand Wednesday afternoon at 1:30. Invocation was pronounced by Rev. F. S. Womack, pastor of the church. Farmer A. B. Kern then made a glowing address of welcome which was responded to by H. W. Northup of Luzerne county, in an able manner. He paid great tribute to the welcome accorded and entertainment thus far received. E. L. Phillips of Clinton county took up the subject "How to Buy Commercial Fertilizer and How to Use It," which was forcibly and ably handled for 40 minutes.

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The afternoon session opened with music followed by W. F. Campbell who spoke on "Poultry—the Business Side." He was followed by E. L. Phillips who talked on better oats culture and finished by stating that for the past 12 years he had no one year an average yield of less than 50 bushels per acre, and the highest average yield for a year was 72 bushels per acre. In two years out of 12 the average yield fell below 50 bushels per acre which caused some of our farmer friends to doubt. He was followed by Mrs. Zeigler who gave a lengthy and interesting talk on practical ways of farmers' wives making money, which was listened to with more interest than any other talk before made.

Mrs. Zeigler again took the floor at the night session and in a 40 minute talk told how the child of today would be the farmer of the future. She was followed by Mr. Northup who spoke at length on the education of the farmer to increase his usefulness.

This being called the educational session the next subject taken up was nature study in the country schools, which was ably handled by ex-County Superintendent Alpheus of Armstrong county, who paid a glowing tribute to the interest manifested. He told lots of good and beneficial things which caused everybody to feel that it was good for them to be there even though the outside world was very biting and

After music by the choir E. L. Phillips all expressed their desire to attend the next meeting next year.

The afternoon session will begin at 1:30, with "Advantages of a Farmers' Organization" by Mr. Fassett. W. C. Myers, the local florist, is down for a talk on "Beautifying the Home Grounds," that will appeal to all interested in the culture of flowers. "Agriculture in Our Country Schools" is the topic of R. C. Shaw, County Superintendent of Westmoreland county, who will make a talk on this subject of education that is near to the heart of every farmer and as well to those who subsist upon the products of the farm. Justice J. Lyman Loucks of Alvinton is on for a talk on "Successful Farming." Edward Werkman, the extensive market gardener of near town is booked for an address on that topic that will interest every one having a garden. The closing session at 7:30 will have as its opening topic Mr. Campbell's lecture on "The Farm of Life." "Smart Fruits" will be Mr. Fassett's subject. The closing talk will be another local minister Rev. W. H. Guyer, pastor of the Church of God of Alvinton, an orator whom all the farmers know and admire. The program throughout is one of remarkable local interest. There will be both vocal and instrumental music interspersed throughout all the sessions, and every one will be closed with a question box.

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HERD BOTTOM MAY BECOME SITE OF MONSTER INDUSTRIAL PLANT.

Promoters Representing Big Car Company Negotiating for Ground on Which to Erect Plant to Employ 4,000 Men.

COMPANY WANTS 80 ACRES

Herd Bottom and the Guiler Plots Are Ones Under Consideration at the Present Time—Deal on For Old Auto Works.

Industrial progress has struck Connellsville with a rush. It is known that representatives of a large pressed steel car company are negotiating with Washington Herd for 80 acres of the famous Herd bottoms at Fayette. The Chamber of Commerce is interested in the deal and has been handling the local end. The price offered for the tract, it is said, is \$12,000. The Herd heirs are not disposed to give up this tract for that amount.

The plant, it is stated, will employ 4,000 men and would make a small town of its own. Holders of adjoining property would derive big profit from the sale of lots. The Guiler property adjoins the proposed location of the car wheel plant. If the plant would be located on the Guiler property the Herd heirs would get the benefit. If the plant should be located on the Herd properties, the greater benefit would go to the Guiler property, because of the location of building ground. During the past week the matter has been up frequently. The names of those promoting the deal have not been given out locally.

Washington Herd, who represents the Herd heirs, is not disposed to give out any information about the matter and only says: "Oh, well we have had a whole lot of offers for the old bottom, but we want to see the money." He did not deny that the bottom was for sale and that negotiations for the sale were on.

Another quiet deal that is in progress is one for the sale of the old Baldwin Automobile Works, which Owen Murphy purchased at Sheriff's sale. Murphy is silent and so are the men who want to secure it. G. O. De-Vaughn of Shohola, Washington and J. L. Coughen, of Washington, Pa., arrived in Connellsville early this week and have been going over the plant. The only information they vouch for about their business was that they want to get hold of the place for a "little manufacturing plant." Mr. Coughen is still in Connellsville. All that Mr. Murphy has to say about the automobile works is that it is for sale. The old automobile works is an ideal place for a small manufacturing plant and would help in the uplift of the community much in an industrial way.

FRICK COKE FIELD AT OUTPUT LIMIT?

Steel Corporation Replacing Connellsville Ovens With By-Product Plants Near Mills.

PITTSBURG, Dec. 16.—A morning paper prints the following story of interest in the Connellsville coke region:

"Girard O. has been selected by the United States Steel Corporation as the site for its first by-product coke plant in Ohio. The corporation has decided also not to build additional coke ovens in the Connellsville region. These developments are taken to mean that the Frick Coke Company has reached its maximum output. As the Connellsville ovens go out they will be replaced with by-product plants contiguous to the furnaces of the steel corporation. The corporation is operating a by-product plant now at Joliet, Ill., and a second one is being built at Gary.

"Joseph G. Butler, President of the Bessemer Pig Iron Association, who is close to the Steel corporation interests, states the building of the coking plant in connection with the Ohio steel plant at Youngstown, as well as several additional furnaces, were projected for that district by the Carnegie Steel Company. Mr. Butler asserted that the Carnegie company's plans call for a total of 26 merchant mills at Girard, although only six of these are to be constructed immediately, and that eventually the bar mills at Youngstown and Greenville, Pa., as well as those at the Upper and Lower Union mills, Pittsburgh, will be assembled at Girard."

RAILROAD MAY BUY BIG COAL PROPERTIES

Rumored That Western Maryland Will Take Over Pittsburgh Coal Company's Plants.

Reports have been circulated for several days, that interests prominent in the reorganization of the Western Maryland Railroad Company, have opened negotiations for the purchase of the Pittsburgh Coal Company's properties in the Pittsburgh district. High officials of a number of the big trunk lines and allied financial interests have not having heard the report.

Local officials of the Wabash-Pitts-

burg Terminal railroad and other Gould representatives in Pittsburgh state positively that they know nothing of such a deal.

Men in a position to know do not take the report seriously. It is pointed out that the Pennsylvania and the New York Central, jointly, were reported to have secured an option on the holdings of the Pittsburgh Coal Company about two years ago. It is admitted that negotiations for such a deal were pending some time ago, but were declared off.

It is stated the same interests which figured in the reorganization of the Western Maryland will take an important part in the reorganization of the Gould roads. Announcement of that effect is expected at any time.

WANT THE LAKE ERIE UP AT MORGANTOWN

Business Men Pass Through on Way For Conference With Officials in Pittsburgh.

A delegation of business men from Morgantown, W. Va., passed through Connellsville Thursday on No. 3 on their way to Pittsburgh for a conference with Colonel J. M. Schoomaker, Vice President of the Pittsburgh & Lake Erie railroad. They wish to have the Buckhannon & Northern railroad, controlled by the Pittsburgh & Lake Erie, extended to that place.

Washington Herd, who represents the Herd heirs, is not disposed to give out any information about the matter and only says: "Oh, well we have had a whole lot of offers for the old bottom, but we want to see the money." He did not deny that the bottom was for sale and that negotiations for the sale were on.

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The Charge Made Against an Agent in Uniontown.

UNIONTOWN, Dec. 17.—The arrest of J. T. Cuppett, well known Uniontown insurance agent, charged with violating insurance laws, marks the first prosecution of its kind ever made in Fayette county, or elsewhere, and the outcome of the case will be watched with interest by companies and policy holders everywhere.

Cuppett is charged with violating the rebate law which makes it unlawful for an insurance agent to give any rebate or any inducement whatever other than that named in the policy, to secure policies for any company. He was arrested shortly before noon, Thursday, by Constable George Thomas, and gave \$300 bail for a hearing before Justice John Boyle, on Thursday, December 22. He is alleged to have issued an insurance policy to Floyd Seaman and allowed a rebate on the same.

BIG COAL PURCHASE.
Pittsburgh-Buffalo Company Gets Entrance Into West Virginia Fields.

One of the most important transactions in West Virginia coal property closed by the entrance of the Pittsburgh-Buffalo Company into the Bruceton section of the Fairmont district. The move places the corporation in position to compete with West Virginia coal operators and meet them on their ground in the long-fought battle for control of the trade in the northwest.

The property consists of 2,446 acres of excellent coal, for which the Pittsburgh-Buffalo company paid \$390 an acre, or a total of \$900,340.

An important development brought on by the sale of the property shows the rapid rise in the price of large bodies of coal in that section,

Bruceton tract having been offered last year at \$15 an acre.

BRIDGE OVER MONONGAHELA.

Pennsylvania Company Getting Estimates for 800-foot Structure.

UNIONTOWN, Dec. 17.—Pennsylvania railroad officials are having estimates made on the cost of a double track bridge over the Monongahela river at the end of the Brownsville yards. The structure will be entirely steel, 800 feet long, and will connect the West Brownsville junction of the Monongahela division with the Brownsville junction of the Pittsburgh & Lake Erie. It will be about 50 feet north of the present single track bridge.

No Money For Hospital.
The Somerset Grand Jury in session last week by a majority vote disapproved of the plan to erect a new county hospital for the insane. There is no money in the treasury available for the hospital.

Established 1859. Incorporated 1894. Jos. Soisson Fire Brick Co., MANUFACTURERS OF High Grade Silica and Fire Clay Brick

For Coke Ovens, Furnaces, Glass Houses and Cupolas. Special Shapes on Short Notice. Tile and Ground Clays.

Annual Capacity of Combined Works 60,000,000

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Silica.....
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Civil, Mining and Consulting Engineers.

Mine and land surveys of all kinds. Plans, estimates and Superintendence of construction of complete coal and coke plants, railroads, water works, city paving and sewerage, etc. Examination and reports on coal lands and mining properties.

Specialties: Coal and Coke Plants.

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601-2 First National Bank Bldg. Bell and Tri-State Phones 248 UNIONTOWN, PA.

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The following is a partial list of Coke Plants for which the W. G. Wilkins Co. have been the Engineers:

Ovens	Ovens
Hecla Coke Company, Plants 2 and 3.....	U. S. Coal & Coke Co., Plants 1, 2 and 3.....
Oliver & Snyder Steel Co., Plants 1, 2 and 3.....	Cascade Coal & Coke Co., Tyler and Sykesville Wks. 600
Austin Coal & Coke Co., Plants 2 and 3.....	H. C. Frick Coke Co., Yorkrun, Shoal and Blitner, 1,000
Colonial Coke Company, Smoky.....	Struthers Coal & Coke Co., Fairbank Works.....

L. W. FOGG, Pres. & Consulting Engineer.
S. P. BOSSART, Vice Pres. H. K. COFFROTH, Sec. & Treas.

Waynesburg Engineering & Construction Company

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Coal and Coke Plants, Mine Development, Railroads, Surveying, Foundations, Buildings, Mapping, Blue Printing.

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Surveys and all Branches of Construction Engineering, Railroads, Coal and Coke Works, Development of Coal Mines, Mapping, Tracing, Blue Printing.

Modern Methods. Accurate Work.

Yards Blocked With Freight Tonnage, The Motive Power All Out on Runs.

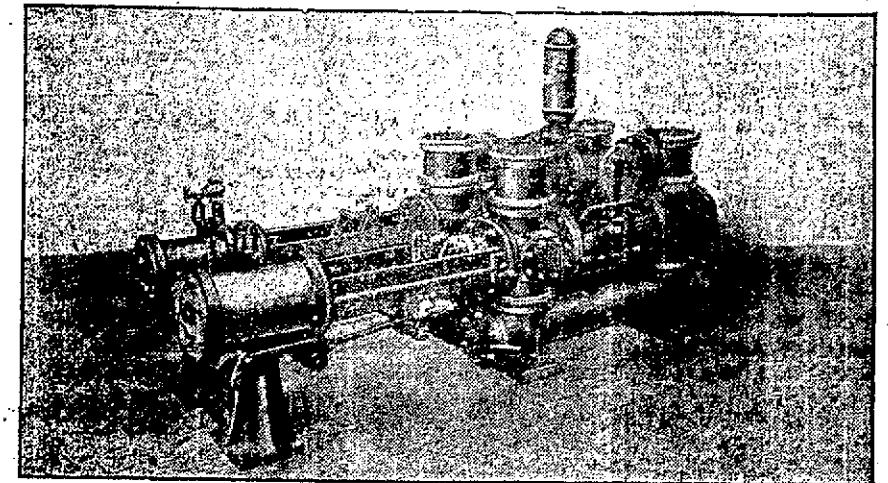
The Baltimore & Ohio railroad, being handled was enormous.

Within a few days he said the company would receive at least 110 new east bound freight. Every engine in the company's service, numbering 175, was in service. The majority of them were at New Castle, on the Fairmont Branch and between Connellsville and Cumberlend.

Crews were called for the regular Broad Ford. A larger number of crews than ever before on a pay day have been called for this afternoon and evening and hundreds of cars are due to pass east power was short, but the business be-
hind evening.

The Connellsville Manufacturing & Mine Supply Company, CONNELLSVILLE, PA.

Sole manufacturers of the Lepley patents and designs, covering a full line of Modern High Grade Mine Equipment Machinery



We have the largest and best equipped mine equipment plant in Western Pennsylvania, fitted exclusively for the production of a high grade product. We manufacture

PUMPS.

ENGINES.

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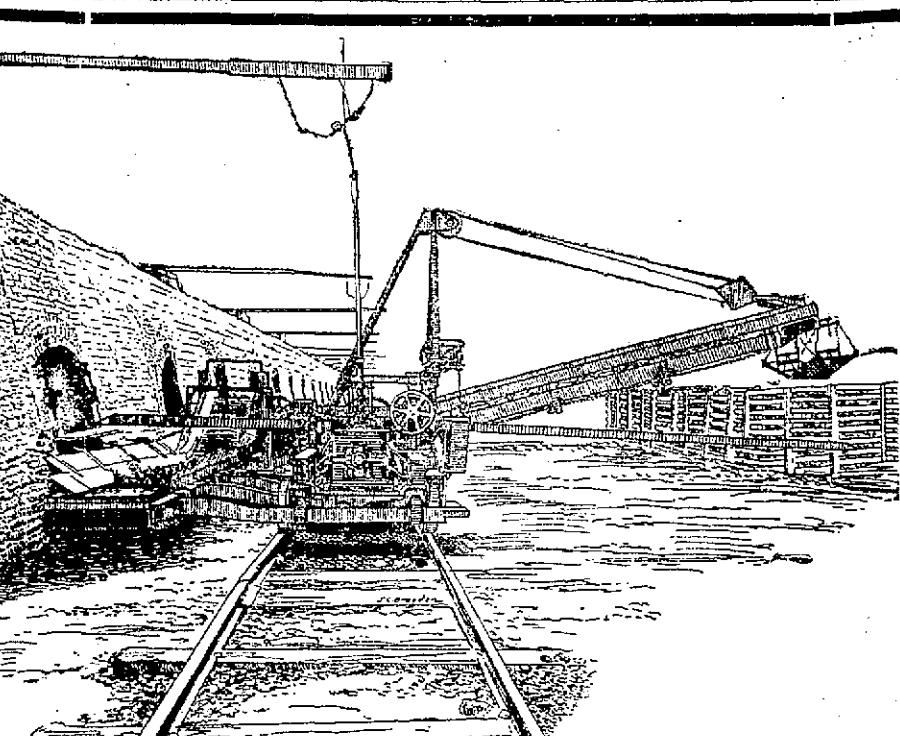
Air Compressors.

Steel Hoisting Cages.

We manufacture none but the highest grade machinery, using only the best materials to be found in the market in its construction.

We are also prepared to accurately duplicate promptly any part of any of our machines.

Your inquiries will receive prompt and satisfactory attention.



The Covington Coke Drawer and Loader

PAYS FOR ITSELF IN TWELVE MONTHS.

MANUFACTURED BY

The Covington Machine Co.,

COVINGTON, VIRGINIA.

Branch Office, at B. & O. Crossing of E. Main Street, - - Uniontown, Pa.

Gracetown Coke Co. FURNACE AND FOUNDRY COKE GRACETON, PA.

Our Foundry Coke is unexcelled by any. Its low sulphur and ash and high fixed carbon make it superior to many. We demonstrate at our expense its ability to give high melting ratios in your foundry.